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SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 26, 2011

The Honorable Michael B. Donley
Secretary of the Air Force
1670 Air Force Pentagon
Washington, DC 20330-1670

Dear Secretary Donley:

Thank you for your service to our nation and to the United States Air Force.

I am concerned that the Air Force's proposal to consolidate the Enterprise Logistics System Program is short sighted, hastily considered, and contrary to the goals laid out for the consolidation. For the last three decades, the development of automated logistics systems has been led by the men and women at Wright Patterson Air Force Base. Jettisoning this expertise in the name of efficiency threatens the viability of the mission and for critical transformation efforts so vital to the men and women of our Air Force.

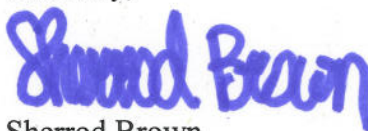
Since the creation of the Advanced Logistics Systems Center at Wright-Paterson in 1967, development of the Air Force's automated logistics management activities have long been part of Wright-Patterson. Arbitrarily shifting management among states and bases, likely adds to costs and jeopardizes this important, ongoing work. While I appreciate the Air Force's claim that there will be no immediate job loss, in the past, employment has followed management of these kinds of programs. We cannot afford to lose the intellectual capital built up at Wright Patterson Air Force Base that is so important to our military because some accountants claim there will be a cost savings.

As you may be aware, the Air Force has repeatedly attempted to consolidate this program, but upon further study and analysis, each time it was determined the current program was the best approach. In an effort to make sure we are not making the same mistake this time, please provide me the detailed analysis leading to this proposal and the relevant savings and efficiencies gained.

Also, I would like to set up a meeting with you and members of the Ohio Congressional delegation at your earliest convenience to discuss this further.

I ask that you reconsider your proposal and work with Congress to develop a plan that meets the needs of the Air Force while maximizing the best use of our nation's tax dollars. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Sherrod Brown
United States Senator